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With a view to promote education among the educationally backward communities an annual allotment of a lakh of rupees has been made since 1917 for awarding scholarships in all grades of education to members of these communities and of this allotment a sum of Rs. 15,000 was reserved for the depressed classes in the vernacular primary and lower secondary stages and in industrial classes. A further allotment of Rs. 15,000 has also been sanctioned for pupils of the depressed classes for studying English.

3. The Education Committee of the Economic Conference submitted in May 1917 a scheme for the revision of scholarships, the main features of which were that

(i) a total allotment of Rs. 3 lakhs should be provided inclusive of the allotment of Rs. one lakh for scholarships to the backward classes.,

(ii) the scholarships should be classified under two heads, *viz.*, (1) open, *i.e.*, available to all classes on consideration of merit only and (2) close, *i.e.*, reserved for special communal groups on grounds of poverty and merit.

Government considered that the best method of encouraging middle school education was not by increasing the number of scholarships but by making middle school education free. As regards higher grades they directed that merit scholarships for all classes and special scholarships on a community basis for combined merit and poverty might be introduced, and accordingly referred the scheme of scholarships to the Inspector-General of Education for further revision on these lines. The Inspector-General of Education consulted the Board of Education and the scheme sent up by him was referred to the University for opinion regarding the scholarships proposed for University courses. The revised proposals submitted by the Inspector-General of Education, the Board of Education, and the University were considered by Government and with a view to co-ordinate the several schemes of scholarships and to reduce the expenditure on scholarships in view of financial stringency, a Committee composed of the Inspector-General of Education and, representatives of the University, the backward communities, and Women's education was constituted to examine in detail the various schemes of scholarships tenable within and outside the State except Foreign Scholarships and submit detailed proposals.

4. The recommendations of the Committee as regards the general principles for the grant of scholarships are as follows: —

(1) That all scholarships in the Primary and Kannada Lower Secondary grades be abolished except those meant for Depressed Classes which should be administered as a special fund and under special rules.

"(2) That girls' scholarships be made tenable to girls studying in boys' schools also, *i.e.*, that scholarships should not be attached to particular institutions but to grades of Education."

(3) "That the term "widows' scholarships" be omitted and that the funds now given in this behalf be merged in the general scheme of stipends for girls' education to which widows too would be eligible."

(4) "That a separate scale of stipends be instituted for Depressed Class girls" as in statement appended.

(5) "That the full freeships now given to the Depressed Classes and half freeships to Mahomedans and Pallegars be continued."

(6) "That the allotment to the Maharani's High School be cut down by a third and the balance merged in the general fund for girls' stipends."

(7) "That the backward classes scholarships fund be not reduced."

(8) "That the practice of freeships being attached to scholarships be continued."

(9) "That the number of freeships be reduced in the Entrance Classes from thirty-three and one-third to fifteen per cent and in the High School classes from 20 to 10 per cent, it being presumed that similar reductions will be effected in the University.

(10) That the Aligarh Scholarships be reduced from 7 to 5.

(11) That the Inspector-General of Education be given a reserve fund of Rs. 2,400 to meet cases of exceptional hardship, this fund being available to the University also.

The Committee have also suggested reduction in the number and value of scholarships now in force and recommended the abolition of the District stipends in the University and the Ayurvedic and the Unani scholarships.

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5: Government approve of the recommendations of the Committee set forth above with the following modifications: —

(1) The subject stipends will be continued but the allotment for the purpose will be reduced to Rs. 2,400.

(2) The special district stipends will be restricted to pupils of Shimoga, Kadur and Chitaldrug Districts.

(3) The present scale of freeships will be continued according to existing sanctions but the whole question of freeships will be re-examined and final orders passed in due course after consulting the University.

(4) The merit scholarships in the College of Engineering will be reduced to 8 of Rs. 15 each and the ordinary scholarships tenable in the same institution to 12 of Rs. 10 each per mensem.

(5) Scholarships tenable in the Mysore Tannery and the Mysore Pharmaceuticals will be discontinued and one Agricultural Scholarship of Rs. 40 per mensem for a Degree in Agriculture tenable for 3 years will be awarded instead of 2 of Rs. 35 each.

(6) Scholarships for private pupils in the Upper Secondary Training and Lower Secondary Training classes in the Maharani's College and the Zenana Normal School respectively may not be deleted as proposed but 6 Upper Secondary Training Scholarships of Rs. 12 and 6 Lower Secondary Training Scholarships of Rs. 10 may be retained.

(7) The scheme of scholarships for girls in all grades will be further examined and separate orders passed in due course, the existing scheme being continued for the current year.

The scheme as now sanctioned effects a saving of Rs. 81,864 per annum in the expenditure on scholarships as shown in the accompanying statement.

K. MATTHAN,
Chief Secy. to Govt.